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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/17/2018

TAGS: PREL UNSC HR GG

SUBJECT: GOC WILL SUPPORT "LIKE-MINDED" IN OPPOSITION TO

UNSC APPEARANCES BY SOUTH OSSETIANS AND ABKHAZIS

REF: STATE 100791

Classified By: Rick Holtzapple, PolEcon Counselor, for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d).

(C) POLCOUNS delivered REF A points on September 23 to Ambassador Vlatko Matek, Special Advisor to the Foreign Minister and Coordinator for UNSC Affairs. Matek said that the GoC, per its usual practice would support the position of the US and EU member states, and understood the bad precedent that would be set by allowing South Ossetian or Abkhaz officials to attend a UNSC session, whether Arria-style or not. Matek said that even if there were differences among some of the EU members of the UNSC, it was still clear where "the majority of our partners" stood. Matek noted that the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and other high officials were currently in New York for the UNGA. He said he would pass the message to the delegation, but that if the US wanted to deliver any message about Georgia and the UNSC at a higher level, then they could do so on the margins of UNGA events. Bradtke